it will be the most effective repudiation of such an irresponsible criticism of a Bill passed by Parliament.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI JAGESH DESAI): The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, this is a discussion on the working of an important Ministry and I wish the Cabinet Minister in charge is present here.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): He is coming.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I am inspired more by your presence than the presence of the frowning senior Minister.

The Human Resource Development Ministry is an important Ministry of the Government of India because, in its purview, it has a number of vital departments covering all sections of the society the students, the youth, the women, the children, the artists, almost every section of the society and, therefore, a discussion on this Ministry is very important.

Before I go into details of each department, I would like to make a general comment that though this Ministry is important in its task, it has become a little unwieldy. I will make some observations and conclude with the same observations again.

The second observation is, a number of new schemes are being initiated. Some of them are very good schemes and should be welcomed. But, at the same time, there is a proliferation of agencies to execute this task and these agencies in some respects are working at cross purposes and lack in coordination.

[**The Vice-Chairman (Shri Satya Prakash Malaviya)** in the Chair]

Another feature is, there is initiation of more Central schemes and the Centre is taking direct responsibility for a number of schemes. Thus, there is an attempt at uniformity negating the principle of unity in diversity.

After making these general observations on the Ministry as a whole, I would now take up the Department of Education. Education has been taken to the Concurrent List for no reason. First we thought that the Centre's taking up this responsibility for education, would be confined only to giving guidelines and coordination and we never envisaged that the Central Government would directly enter the educational field at various levels. And having entered, it should have been fair for the Union Government to allocate sufficient resources for educational advancement. But if you see the total expenditure, in 1987-88, it was Rs. 1209 crores, and in 1988-89, it is Rs. 1584.84 crores. it is just double tht amount spent by one State, Andhra Pradesh, on education. The Andhra Pradesh Government spends nearly Rs. 800 crores on education and the Union Government, as a whole, in the country, is spending Rs. 1584 crores. In all these schemes, there is an element of mistrust of the States, a mistrust of the capacity of the States to undertake these schemes. The Centre is trying to do too many things at a time. In the education field, we find again that there is confusion about the role of the Union and the State Governments. It was there earlier also. It is not a new thing. The same confusion continues still. Confusion about the role of the Union and the States, confusion about the role of the Government and the private agencies in school education and higher education.

[Shri Parvathaneni Upendra]

This confusion is still pervading the Education Department.

In regard to school education, there is a Constitution obligation of universalisation of elementary education but this goal remains a far cry. The National Policy on Education which Parliament adopted, by itself, is a good document. It visualises universal enrolment and retention of children up to 14 years of age and it also envisages improvement in the quality of education. I wonder whether we are moving in the right direction towards achieving these two objectives as far as school education is concerned.

Then, in regard to non-formal education, the Seventh Plan target is to cover 2.5 crore children. This is, particularly, relating to the habitations without schools, school dropouts, working children and girls who cannot attend day schools. The work of opening of non-formal education centres is very tardy. Not only by the Government. There is very little encouragement to voluntary organisations taking up such activities.

The National Education Policy has introduced a new concept, the concept of Navodaya Schools. It was in the beginning condemned and suspected to be an elitist scheme. I must admit that I also felt the same at that time. But, after discussion with the Minister, Mr. Narasimha Rao, I was convinced that this concept could be developed into a model scheme particularly because the scheme envisages enrolment of 75 per cent children from the rural areas. Rs. 500 crores have been allocated for this scheme in the Seventh Plan. The idea is to open one school in each district by 1990 and it means about 448 schools are proposed to be opened. The main objective of these Navodaya Schools is to bring the benefit of good quality education within the reach of the children from the rural areas. In 1986-87, 83 schools were opened. I can understand that. It was the first year. It started late and the hon. Minister took considerable time in persuading a number of State Governments. Even today, a number of State Governments are reluctant to open these schools. They have not done it. They have not agreed to open these schools. Many States are without Navodaya Schools even today. In 1987-88, the target was 126 schools. But the target was not achieved as per the Ministry's report. Fifty more schools are proposed to be opened this year. The Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has been formed and the sub-centres have also been formed. But in the recruitment of students from the rural areas, I find, in certain States, the response is not very encouraging. I cannot blame the Ministry for that. Probably the publicity part of it is not effective. Therefore many students have not understood what it means. When the scheme was accepted and I spoke in this House on Navodaya Schools, I expressed my doubt about the capacity of the Ministry to recruit and train the language teachers required in various States. That is a big task because the scheme envisages the teaching of regional languages of the States and those students will migrate to the States the languages of which they are learning. I would like the Minister to tell us in his reply, how far this recruitment of language teachers in various States has taken place, in which States. It is lagging and the reason for the same. I think the migration would start from next year onwards. Therefore it is high time that the teachers are in position and the students must have learnt the language by now. For two or three years they must learn it and this progress should be told to the House.

One other important scheme, which the National Policy on Education has envisaged, is in regard to the school buildings. We know that many of the schools, particularly in rural areas, have no buildings, no equipment;

many schools are conducted in thatched huts or in buildings without roofs, or outside under the trees, or in verandahs and what not. Operation Blackboard, which the Department has undertaken, envisages construction of two large rooms and provision of aids like maps, charts etc. This should be given a fillip. Of course, there is already a provision of Rs. 100 crores last year and Rs. 130 crores this year. But that is not enough. Even though this scheme is being given priority as the first charge on the NREP and RLEGP programmes, the States require more funds for construction of buildings. You have put a target that 20 per cent of the block/municipal areas should be covered by 1987-88, 30 per cent this year and 50 per cent next year. If these targets have to be achieved, you must give more money to the States, and particularly to the nine educationally backward States like Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, U.P. and West Bengal.

Now coming to Kendriya Vidyalayas, this concept was also welcomed, when it was started in 1963-64, because the schools provided facilities particularly for the children of the Government employees and others who are in transferable posts. You have already 635 schools covering 5 lakh students. Standard is also good. Many people have praised the standard of education in the Kendriya Vidyalayas. The results are also very good. There is a scramble for admission into these schools. But their number should also be augmented. More and more Kendriya Vidyalayas have to be opened, particularly where the Central Government employees are in considerable number.

One factor which I want to bring to the notice of the Minister is that the three language formula, which the Government has accepted as a basic policy, is not being implemented in the Kendriya Vidyalayas in many States. They have Hindi and English and as a third language, Sanskrit is being taught. That is the students who would like to learn the regional language are not getting the facility in the Kendriya Vidyalayas and this is causing a lot of heart-burning and resentment among the students and their parents there. Then, you have defined the role of the NCERT, but it should play a bigger role as an adviser to the Education Ministry in regard to research, development, training, extension, coordination and publications. One task is, it should give more importance to curricular changes which is not progressing. Though they have sent draft guidelines to the States last year, so far they have not been able to finalize the curriculum in the schools. Therefore, that point should be stressed and the NCERT should be asked to finalize the syllabi as early as possible.

Then, vocationalization, which is also an accepted policy for preparing students for remunerative work, is not progressing due to various reasons. The National Policy on Education visualizes 10 per cent diversification of students at the higher secondary stage to the vocational stream by 1990. Even the Kolandaiswami Working Group's recommendations in this respect have not been fully implemented. Under the Centrally-sponsored scheme of vocationalization you have to assist 5,000 schools in equipping them for vocationalization in the Seventh Plan, but most of these facilities have not been created in these schools and only Rs. 50 crores have been allotted for vocationalization of secondary education in this year's budget. That should be increased, if possible, when they revise their budget estimates, and there is a possibility of readjustment.

The role of audio-visual aids also in school education has not been fully appreciated and given a fillip. Though the CIET is there to look after the implementation of these programmes and educational technology and helping the SIETs in the States, not much

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progress has been made and many schools have not got the TV sets or Videos so far. In fact, the Government of Andhra Pradesh, as the Minister very well knows, has made a lot of progress in introducing audio-visual aids in the schools. For classes I and II, all the lessons have been converted into video cassettes and schools have been given video sets also . . . (*Time bell rings*)

Sir, I will take as much time as the other initiators.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): How much?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I do not know how much time they had taken but it is not less than 45 minutes that both the speakers had taken. That is, if I have to do justice. Otherwise I can rush.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): The time allotted to you was 14 minutes.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Initiator has no time limit. That was the understanding. Both the initiators had taken sufficient time. I can do it in five minutes also but it does not cut any ice. I want to make my points. If you want me to continue today, I can. Otherwise tomorrow I can continue. But I have to make many points and I have to cover five departments. I have not finished even one. Therefore, please do not hurry me up.

The mid-day meal scheme is being successfully implemented by the Tamil Nadu Government. In Andhra Pradesh, we are not able to sustain the scheme for lack of resources and also organizational back-up. About this also the Centre has to take a view and, wherever possible, this should be encouraged so that retention of children in the schools will be higher. Similarly, many States are supplying uniforms and text books to school children. For this also there should be a special provision in the Central budget to assist the States.

As I mentioned earlier, the three-language formula is not working properly in the Kendriya Vidyalayas. Also in many States, particularly in the Hindi areas, the three language formula is not functioning. In the interest of national unity and integration we have been repeatedly stressing that the Hindi States must introduce at least one language from the non-Hindi States as a third language. Many States are doing only with Sanskrit. Except the State of Haryana and one or two other States, they are not introducing the third language. Therefore, that must be done, and the Centre must act if they really want national integration to be promoted.

When we come to the university and higher education, the UGC's role is now confined only to giving money grants and some recognition. But it should devote more attention to the improvement of standards and avoidance of duplication because many universities are starting courses which are duplicate, duplicating other universities in the same State. Therefore, they should have better coordination, and they should pay more attention to the standards in this respect.

Then, about university teachers' salaries etc., the Mehrotra Committee's recommendations are being implemented, though slowly. But the 20 per cent burden on the States is high. Therefore, if possible, the States should be helped in this respect.

Then, one point which I would like to mention to the Minister in this connection is, how far the proliferation of general colleges will help in the promotion of employment opportunities because more and more educated unemployed are registering themselves in the employment exchanges and how to prevent this kind

of explosive situation because general educational colleges are being opened almost everyday in many places. There is no restriction on that. The State Governments are also not placing proper restrictions on the opening of those colleges. In this regard, a policy should be evolved also.

Also the role of the private sector, private enterprise, in running these colleges, particularly in the higher education, should also be defined. There used to be a lot of enthusiasm in the private enterprise to open colleges and run them in the past. But more and more stress is now being given to opening government colleges. That also requires a little review.

Then the universities should be spared from the burden of the day-to-day administration, the administrative burden. They should devote more time for research and maintenance of standards etc. in colleges. Now a days they are more burdened with the administrative work. In Andhra Pradesh we are experimenting with the Commissionerate of higher education, which of course, has landed in trouble due to court orders. But you are going to have a National Council for Higher Education. Therefore, similiarly, the Council's task should be to save universities from the day-to-day administrative work.

The concept of open universities should also be encouraged. In that respect also Andhra Pradesh has taken a lead. It was the first State to start an open university. Subsequently you have started the Indira Gandhi Open University here. So, more and more States should be encouraged so that those who cannot attend colleges regularly, can take advantage of the education offered by the open universities.

Then, about rural universities, the proposal is not making headway. In reply to a parliamentary question, the Minister said that the plans are still being finalised. I do not know what the snag is and why the progress is so tardy in this respect.

Another area where little progress has been made is in regard to delinking of degrees from jobs. The National Policy on Education has suggested that the Department of Personnel should complete a review of the job requirements and recruitment rules to identify those jobs which can be delinked from university degrees. The Department of Personnel has not completed that task so far.

A National Testing Service was to be established to advise specific tests in this regard. So far, nothing has been done in this respect. Even when the National Testing Service prepares the guidelines, the certificate obtained from the NTS must be accepted by the private sector and the industries. Unless you make it compulsory, even for the jobs for which the NTS certificate is enough, degree holders and post-graduate degree holders will start applying. If you consider them along with these certificate holders, then, the very purpose of the NTS scheme will be frustrated. Therefore, even if you may have to bring a legislation for that, you have to do that.

Then, the National Loan Scholarship Scheme. Just to only 20,000 people you are giving about Rs. 3 crores. This is not sufficient. You must increase the amount substantially. Similarly, for the National Talent Search Scholarship amount for only 750 people has been provided in 1987-88. For a vast country like this, this is not enough. For the Physical Education and Yoga, on which NPE laid a lot of stress, you have allotted Rs. 2.3 crores. I do not know whether this is a half-hearted step or you really mean to give encouragement to physical education and Yoga.

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Coming to technical education, I may point out there are many colleges without infrastructure. Several colleges have been running without any facilities. You have to do something so that these colleges acquire the necessary infrastructure. NPE also spoke about the capitation fees charged by these engineering and medical institutions. In the interest of maintaining standards etc. commercialisation of technical education should be curbed. The All India Council of Technical Education has been given this task, but today eight engineering colleges in Bihar, 27 in Karnataka, 52 in Maharashtra, 22 in Tamil Nadu and about five medical colleges in Karnataka are still collecting high capitation fees. You have promised to bring forward a Central Bill, but so far it has not been brought. More and more such colleges are proliferating everyday. In Maharashtra, particularly, there is a mushroom growth of such technical institutions. I would like to know whether it is advisable to allow such institutions to come up. The Minister should ponder over this.

So, far, we are having only five IITs. They are maintaining good standards. I understand you are going to have the sixth one in Assam. Its progress is very slow. When I went to Assam, the Assam Chief Minister said that only the site has been identified, but no progress has been made. It should be given a fillip. In addition, I suggest one more IIT should be started in Hyderabad, because it is a central place, easily accessable to many people. The Minister need not feel shy about it. It can be had even at Warrangal or anywhere else, but we need one more IIT. Similarly, the number of Indian Institute of Management is also very less. Such institutes are only four in number. If you cannot open an IIT, you open IIM in Hyderabad. That is my specific request to the hon. Minister, Then I would request the hon. Minister . . .

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): He is quick in settling for less.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I would like the Minister to have a small inquiry made into the affairs of School of Planning and Architecture here in Delhi. There are some complaints about its working. I would like the Ministry to make an inquiry into these things.

You are financing a number of other organisations—the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research, the Indian Council of Philosophical Research, the Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Simla, the Indian Council of Historical Research. The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, Dr. Zakir Husain Memorial College, the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore, the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad. I know some of them are doing a good work, but I do not know if the money allotment is just sufficient for salaries and maintenance of the buildings. Therefore, a review of the allotment is needed. You have to appoint a special committee for this to see how these institutions are functioning, which deserve to be encouraged and which deserved not to be encouraged.

The Minister knows that the Administrative Staff College in Hyderabad is a premier institution running on excellent lines. But you have given just Rs. 2.5 lakhs as grant in this year's Budget. I suggest such an organisation must be encouraged. Similarly, for the scientists going abroad you have provided only Rs. 1.25 lakhs in the Budget. It is a very paltry amount. This should be increased. The Education Ministry should lay more stress on the extra-curricular activities of the students. Study tours,

excursions the NCC and the NSS should be given encouragement. The earn-as-you-learn scheme has also to be encouraged. It has not picked up in our country, but we should give more encouragement to this scheme. Because in a poor country like ours there are many students from the middle class and the lower middle class families. If you can introduce a scheme like "Earn as you learn", at least in some centres, on an experimental basis, that would be helpful.

Regarding the role of the students Union; also you must review, because in certain universities like Delhi University and some other universities elections to these Unions are comparable to the General Elections and most of the time of the students is being lost in the direct elections. In earlier days, the Students Unions were formed by indirect elections. The class leaders used to be elected and those leaders used to elect the executive of the Union. Whether we should go back to that system should be examined because of the role of the Students Unions. I do not want abolishing of the Unions as a whole but a different method for elections to these Unions must be examined.

Then, I strongly oppose any move for an All India Service in Education. If you have got any thought like that, we will firmly oppose it and all the non-Congress States are opposed to any new All India Service, particularly in education, because teachers going from one place to another would not help. It will not help at all.

Regarding adult education also the literacy rate in 1951 was 16.67 per cent and it has just come to 36.23 per cent in 1981, after 30 years. Just you have 20 per cent increase. There are still 425 million illiterates in this country and if you take the 15—35 years age group they are now 110 million. It is a very explosive situation. You must do something to remove adult illiteracy. If you have to achieve the target by 1995 you have to give more funds to the Adult Education Programme and streamline the programme also and give more encouragement to the voluntary organisations. Don't try to do everything by the Government. Though you have started a technology mission on literacy and started the mass campaign also on the 5th of this month, more voluntary organisations should be encouraged to take up this task.

Now, shall I come to the second Department, the Department of Culture?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): You can take some more time.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Thank you, Sir.

Sir, I had some good words to use for the Department of Education but I cannot be so charitable when it comes to the Department of Culture, because there is a lot of, should I say —"gol mal" what is a correct English word, only Narasimha Raoji, should tell us.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: It has been anglicised.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: There is a lot of it in this field. Of course, once Gandhiji said to Tagore, while writing a letter to him, when he mentioned about poetry and all that. Gandhiji wrote to Tagore: "The poor ask only for one poem, invigorating food." That was Gandhiji's letter to Tagore. But we are not talking in that sense alone—not by bread alone. Therefore, we are trying to do something in the cultural fields. But what is our cultural policy? Is there any policy in this regard? Till now the Akademis propagated this culture and there also propagation was merely confined to theatres, studios, galleries, mostly catering to the urban elite, urban middle class and the elite. But from 1985 you started an aggres-

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sive cultural policy and we all felt that this aggressive policy would help preservation, conservation and promotion of culture, which you say, is the objective of the Department of Culture. And, therefore, from Rs. 44 crores in the Sixth Plan, you have increased to Rs. 265 crores in the Seventh Plan for culture. I welcome it. My interest in culture, you know very well. I welcome this stepping up of the allocation. But is it being properly spent? Today the culture has become a sarkari culture. It is a Government culture and all the Akademis have become useless. They have been made useless, ineffective and even these Academis are in such a bad shape today that you had to appoint the Haksar Committee to go into the affairs of these Academis and also the National School of Drama. Vested interests have developed in this field, I am sorry to say that. Though the Minister is in overall charge of Culture and its activities, he is really not the master. Some grand Moghuls have emerged in this Cultural field presided over by a senile woman at the top, who, in the name of advisor to the Prime Minister, is trying to dictate to all those who are involved with that culture. I am sorry to say that. I never use harsh words. But the woman who has no perception of the modern situation today, who has lost all her moorings, is dictating the cultural field today. It is not Mr. Narasimha Rao or his department or the ICRR or anybody else. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SURESH KALMADI (Maharashtra): I think the word senile should not go on record.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: There is nothing wrong in it. Senile is not unparliamentary. There are several agencies, the department of Culture, ICCR, the Sangeet Natak Academi, the Lalit Kala Academi, the Centre for Cultural Resources and Training and the Cultural Advisor to the Prime Minister. So many people are handling culture and nobody knows what he is doing. The left hand does not know what the right hand is doing and everybody is running around the world, trying to promote the Indian culture abroad. But who is doing what, nobody knows and there is no coordination. There is utter confusion in this field. You have started the Zonal Cultural Centres. It is a good idea. But are you sure that you have picked up proper persons to man them? These should be run by men and women of proven eminence and commitment and more important by those who are capable of staying away from parochial and narrow considerations. But I am sorry to say that most of the centres are manned by such people who have no conception of culture and who are just running about and spending the money what ever is being allocated by the Centre and contributed by the States and the worst is, whenever you get an assignment whether it is cultural field or something else, you immediately have an IAS officer, whether it is a Festival of India or something else. I do not have anything personal against any officer but when you select a person for such assignments, you select an eminent man who is well versed in culture, not because he is an IAS officer, he should be the Director of the Festival Committee. When it comes to the IAS people in charge of the festivals etc. I just read a paragraph from the "Times of India".

> "New culture comes to Delhi with drums beating and with anklets jingling. It is a culture managed by Ministries, divided into sections, departmentalised. It is a system in which the section officer for folk dances does not know the language spoken by the section officer for folk music. The Joint Secretary writes on the margin of the file, "Sarod and Sitar". I know. But what is this Saraswati Veena? Who is this Saraswati? The Secretary

would like to have notes on the Santur and the Swar Mandal."

This is the type of officers you are putting in charge of culture.

Now, a cultural museum was supposed to be set up in Pragati Maidan and I do not know whether Mohd. Yunus allows you to proceed with that. He is another Czar sitting there. Therefore, I do not know what is happening to that. The Committee has been appointed a long time ago to prepare a report on this. Nothing has been done so far. What is standing in its way?

Then in the Sangeet Natak Akademi, a premier cultural organisation started in 1953-54, another moghul was presiding over that till recently. I do not have anything against him. He is a very eminent man. But people with set ideas, do not change with times. Even today he is what he was thirty years ago. I have personally experienced that when I went to Washington for the inaugural function of the Festival of India, I saw the opening selection of the great man, an item from the Kathakali. I hung my head in shame when people were making comments there. Such types of people preside over the Sangeet Natak Akademi. From November, there is no chairman. People say there is no chairman because all is held up in the Prime Minister's office because they are not able to make up their mind whom to put there. Why is there this delay? From November till today why could you not pick up a chairman to head this premier organization? For the Lalit Kala Akademi you have the system of electing from the General Council. Why do you follow a different procedure in the case of the Sangeet Natak Akademi? Why do you not allow the General Council or some other body to elect the Chairman for the Sangeet Natak Akademi also? Even this Sangeet Natak Akademi, which is supposed to be the premier organisation, was not in the picture at all when zonal cultural centres were formed or festivals like the Apna Utsav were organized in Delhi. They are not in the picture. You selected a Congress M.P. to head that committee. Then comes the National School of Drama. Except Hindi you do not hear anythnig there. I would like to ask the Minister this question. What is the contribution of this NSD, to which you give more than a crore of rupees every year, in the promotion of regional theatre groups? Has it done anything? How many groups could it promote? I would like to know.

Then I come to the Lalit Kala Akademi. It is a 'namkevaste' organization. Just 20 artists are encouraged every year. (*Interruption*). They elect the chairman. But the miney is in your hands. It should be strengthened so that it can buy art works. You go to any private art shows, where the art works are sold at a pittance, you feel pity. Therefore, the Lalit Kala Akademi should come to the aid of these artists. The number of scholarships Should not be just 20 a year, but should be 200 a year. I do not want to make any comments about the Sahitya Acadamy.

For the development of cultural activities by your department, you are giving Rs. 20,000/- or fifty per cent of the expenses whichever is less. It is very meagre. Equally meagre are the grants to voluntary cultural organisations. I do not know what procedure you are following. You gave Rs. 4 lakhs last year and Rs. 5 lakhs this year. What a pittance it is! For such a vast country with as many as 25 States, you give Rs. 5 lakhs. You have got a lot of money, Narasimha Raoji. Why don't you be a little liberal, if you really want to encourage?

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Do you mean to say we are not spending the money given to us?

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I do not say that. You ask for more and reallocate instead of wasting on some organizations. You are giving 100 scholarships.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): You have taken more than 45 minutes.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Please, do not remind me. Let me finish. Once culture is over, I am not very much interested in the other things. My friend, Shri Kalmadi, will take over tomorrow. Coming to scholarships for the culture field, there are only 100 scholarships. This also must be increased.

Then the biggest thing is the Festival of India, Sir. What I said earlier squarely applies here too. One does not know what the other is doing. You already had festivals in the U.S.A., and France and now in the U.S.S.R. and Japan. Then you had the Indian Manifestation in Sweden and in the U.K. Then India in Switzerland. Then we participated in the International Ocean Festival in Mauritius. Now, you have spent directly so far Rs. 25.69 crores on these festivals, apart from the indirect costs like the expenses on officials making hundreds of trips, going and coming. I do not think this figure reflects that. But the point is, what are the criteria for selecting these countries? Random? Anybody coming forward? What is the linkage between the festivals and the ultimate results? Suppose you promote our culture in a foreign country and they are influenced by that, they are impressed by that, the country should get something back in the form of tourists, increased tourist traffic, or trade or what ever it is. Your idea is to create interest. I do not know why always Sweden comes into picture. For everything, whether it is a gun or culture...

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Gun culture.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: ...you think of Sweden. There should be a policy for this. And also the type of festivals should suit the tastes of the people there. That also is not being done. Then most of the official delegations and people being sent there, there is no procedure, there is no policy. Who is selecting them? How are they going? Some of them are Youth Congress leaders, some personal relatives, some personal friends, etc. What sort of people are going? Is there any process of selection, is there any procedure for this? You will say there is a selection committee. We know all that bunkum of a selection committee. Who really makes the selection? That is the question. Here I would like to quote a couple of things. I was making a study on the basis of a parliamentary question put by me about the teams which were being sent.

In the recent Japan Festival 146 people were sent and out of them more than one-third, 54 people,—Mr. Jacob should not take offence—21 are from Manipur and 33 are from Kerala. Then for USSR in the first batch you sent 57 troupes; out of them 19 were from the south—15 from Tamil Nadu, 1 from Andhra Pradesh, 1 from Kerala and 1 from Karnataka. For USSR Phase II you sent 28 teams; only 3 from the south and all of them were from Tamil Nadu...

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: None from Karnataka also.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Karnataka also.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: USSR Phase III: you sent 13 teams; only 2 from the south—one from Kerala and one from Tamil Nadu...

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Again nothing for Karnataka.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: And for Sweden you sent 19 teams; 6 from the south—3 from Tamil Nadu and 3 from Kerala. For Japan I have already told you. This is the position. Therefore, Andhra Pradesh and...

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Karnataka also.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Yes, both Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are getting a raw deal. I support the Minister fully, the Minister of State...

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: She is supporting you.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: And in all these festivals you sent one lambadi group from Andhra Pradesh to the Soviet Union, that is all, as if there is no other culture in Andhra Pradesh! Why are you giving such a raw deal to Andhra Pradesh? Are you

afraid that because you come from Andhra Pradesh you will be accused of partiality or something? And Margaretji also may be feeling the same thing. Therefore, this imbalance must be corrected. There should be equitable distribution of teams, there should be equitable selection, so that all States get a fair deal in this. Why should the same fellows go repeatedly for all the festivals? I have seen the same man, the same troupe, going to every festival. Why don't you encourage new people, new troupes, new artistes? Just because those people are in Delhi, just because they can influence, manipulate, you send the same people over and over again! You must change this process. What about the people who are far away, who have no influence, who have no recommendation? What are your zonal councils doing? It is their job to locate talent and recommend.

Now the Apna Utsavs. We had a bitter experience in Delhi. I believe you are going to organise one now in Bombay. For God's sake, don't do it. This extravaganza is costing Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 crores. Why do you always have to select only cities like Bombay and Delhi? Why don't you distribute the amount so that the festivals, the utsavs, can be held in the State capitals, other centres in the States? Why do you expect all the people to come to Delhi? How many people can go and enjoy the shows in places like Delhi? Of course, crowds will be there in Delhi for everything and for everything the people in Delhi will flock if it is a free show. But that is not the case in other places. Why don't you organize shall festivals in various centres? There should be cross-movements also. The Zonal Cultural Centres should send troupes from one zone to another so that the people of one zone can know what the culture of the other Zone is and that must be the job and that is not done.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: It is being done.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Then, about the ICCR also, I am sorry, to say, though a great man is presiding over that, he has no time and the Vice-President has no time to devote to the day-to-day work. Somebody else sits there, a Foreign Service officer. If culture has to be integrated and if you want to do something, there is no reason why it should be the External Affairs Ministry. There may be other aspects. Exchange of student groups, etc. can be handled by the ICCR itself. But at least the cultural part must be either with the Sangeet Natak Akademi or with the Department of Culture and there is no role for the ICCR in this. Ultimately, the stamp of ICCR is given for everything which somebody else does. It is not correct. Then, you have got cultural Agreements with 78 countries and cultural exchange programmes with 53 countries. When I went to Japan, I asked the Ambassador, "You have got a Joint Commission on Culture with Japan. How many times have you met?" And the Ambassador replied, "Never". It never met, not even once. Therefore, you must do something about it so that the Joint Commissions function and the agreements function.

Then, Sir, the Indira Gandhi National Centre of Arts is spending a lot of amount. We wish it becomes a good cultural centre. But the progress is very slow. Even the data bank of which you wanted to collect material is not working well and that operation is not being done properly. That should be expedited. You have got the money and all that.

Narasimha Raoji, I have the harshest words to use for the Central Board of Film Certification over which you are presiding. Firstly, I feel you have no business to keep that portfolio with you. It should go along with the Film Development Corporation or the Ministry of I and B and I do not understand the rationale behind keeping it with you. And it is doing the greatest disservice. Because you have no time to devote to that organization, all sorts of people are put in the Regional Boards and they are showing partiality. There is corrupion in that and they harass the producers and directors and there is favouritism there. I wrote to you a letter also in a particular case showing how they manipulated the Censorship Certificates. Therefore, these Boards must be manned by professionals who have got some experience in this fields. Also, expunged portions are being added after the

[Shri Parvathaneni Upendra]

censorship. Are you keeping any control over these things? There is no control. In the films produced in Kerala and other places, many censored portions are being shown and there is no control by your Department. I do not know whether the police does it or you do it.

Now, I will briefly mention about Women's and Child Development. Sir, in spite of the charm of the Minister of State, who presides over this Department, I find that in every respect the allocation this year is less than that of last year and I do not know how it happened. But I find—I have gone through the Report—that for every item the allocation this year is less than that of last year.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We are giving it for Education.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: I do not know.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Women's education!

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: But the allocations are less than last year's allocations for the Department of Women and Child Development. She gave 8.00 P.M for 95,000 organisations Rs. 95 lakhs benevolently. That means, about Rs. 2000 each. What is this? Is it help? What to do with it at all?

Particularly in the case of working women's hostels the work is very, very slow. You proposed to open 60, but you could open only 16 at the end of 1987. This also needs to be examined. In many women hospitals, whether run by the Government or by private organisations the conditions are very bad. The room condition is very bad. The inmates are exploited like anything. I request the Minister to make surprise visits to some hostels. If she wants I can accompany her.

Then, take Mahila Mandals also. In 1987-88 she helped 349 Mahila Mandals.

In regard to atrocities on women you said you will encourage publicity campaigns, etc. But to those who come forward with themes, programmes, etc., highlighting the atrocities on women no encouragement is given. I can write to you about specific examples how they are being discouraged.

Then, for equal rights in property, the Andhra Pradesh Government has done a lot. We have done 30 per cent job reservations. In political offices we have given sufficient reservation for women. A mass campaign is being carried on to construct sanitary latrines for women in villages. All this the Andhra Pradesh Government is able to do. Why don't you help us at least? We are a model State. Give us money, if you cannot do it throughout the country. Please do something about it. Then in regard to creches the progress is very slow. That should be encouraged.

My friend will talk tomorrow about sports. But I can only refer to the fact that so far as our performance in sports is concerned, the less said the better. In spite of your encouragement, direct presence, direct encouragement, you know what happened in Seoul and what happened in Olympics earlier, and I do not know what is going to happen in this year's Olympics. Therefore, there must be encouragement for sports activities and sportmen. Why in a country with 800 million people are you not able to produce even a dozen medal winners? That is a big shame! What type of encouragement are you giving to sportsmen? Unless you give a lot of encouragement and necetive to sportsmen, the position won't improve. I only just quote one report. It is a UNI report, dated April 24th, from Madhya Pradesh: "Seventeen year old Shanti Bai who has won 12 medals for her State in the National Swimming Championship is today selling flowers outside the Siva Temple here. The

cases of 22 year old Ruia, who has won 20 medals for the State in swimming, is no better. He ferries a boat across the river to earn a livelihood and the daily income is five rupees." If this is the state of medel winners, then who will come forward? When I put a Parliament question as to how many sportsmen have been employed by the Government and public undertakings, your reply is: the information is being collected. That means you don't have even that much information in the Ministry.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: We do not know.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Why don't you collect it? We told you to maintain a Register of the people who are State champions and national champions. Why don't you maintain that register where the State champions or national champions are employed, what they are doing and what is their problem?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: It is a State subject. States have to give the information.

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: You also encourage Federations. But don't try to enter into the sports field. That is another disaster. You know the politics in the Olympic Association and all that. What was happening? Don't put your finger there. You encourage the Federations. Have a dialogue with them and call them if they are not functioning well, and all that.

Sir, to Nehru Yuva Kendras also you should give more money. You should encourage the inter-State movement of youth teams.

Sir, I am coming to the final point. When you depute teams from the youth for Festivals of India you give recognition to sportsmen, etc. who have made some good contribution. I do not have anything against the Youth Congress people. You can send them. But there should be some criterion, some proficiency in some field, some contribution, some achievement. You put some mark. Or some students' union leaders. Have a category, so that there is no favouritism there, no random selection is there. Finally, I would like to say that your Ministry has become unwieldy. You have taken up too big a task. You are an educationist. You can do justice to education. You are a man of culture and, therefore, you can do justice to culture. Now you have taken five departments—Education, Culture, Women and Children, Youth and Sports and Art. You are not able to do justice to any of them. It is time to bifurcate the Ministry and have independent Ministries for Education, for Culture and for other activities. This is my suggestion. I hope you would consider this suggestion.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Sir, I think that Human Resource Development is the most important aspect in the life of a nation for an all-round development of the human beings. Sir, for many years, I think, this particular aspect was neglected. But with a young dynamic Prime Minister, I think he has put his fingers ino this most important aspert, *i.e.* of Human Resource, and especially in the field of education and sports. The 13-time increase for sports was indeed a land-mark for the country. This step has been taken very late, as my friend Mr. Upendra just now mentioned. Why have we not won medals? Are we going to win medals in the next Olympics? We are not. One cannot win medals overnight. What have we done all these years to develop sports talent in the country? But a beginning has been made by increasing the budget for sports 13 times and I think the country is in for very exciting times as far as sports are concerned. After many years, there is money for sports. After many years, sponsors are coming forward to encourage sports. After many years, public sector and

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private sector are sponsoring sports. I think if we work on a long-term perspective, on a 8-year perspective, definitely we will achieve results. But if we work on a short-term plan, I am sure we are not going to go anywhere. What Indian sports needs is not cosmetics. What it needs is indeed a major surgery and this surgery has started. Money is there. But how are we going to spend this money? This is the most important aspect that we have to look into. Sports reflects national spirit and national pride. But I am sure that the Department of Human Resource Development which has been formed as a separate Ministry is one of the highlights of the Rajiv Gandhi Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA): Now you can continue tomorrow.

The House stands adjourned till 11 o'clock tomorrow.

The House then adjourned at ten minutes past eight of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 15th April, 1988.